

17 Indisputable Laws of Teamwork-J. Maxwell

Reflection

Nothing of value can be nor has ever been done alone. This simple statement is as profound as any uttered in the name of teamwork. Even if you look at seemingly solo events, flying across the ocean alone or swimming the English channel, you will find a team of assistants and experts that contributed to the overall success.

Great teams must be built. Building a great team can take the form of either recruitment or development. In regards to education, the statistics in teacher retention allows for the constant recruitment of new minds, values, and ideas. Hopefully, as leaders are able to bring aboard the right people the need for recruitment will decrease and leaders can shift their focus to the development of those already on the bus.

With teams and teamwork it is important to develop skills and trust. Some people may not want to be on the team where it is going and that is okay. It is important to focus on, and get people, who want to be part of the journey. While on the journey, leaders and teammates need to put energy into developing others. This makes me think about how many leaders themselves go to professional development outside the confines of the building--conferences, retreats, and conventions-but the 'ground troops' rarely get the opportunity or have to fight to get the chance to attend similar events. If leaders are going to treat themselves to growth opportunities they should, at the very least, be brainstorming ways in which their opportunity to learn can transcend unto their team.

Notes

1. Law of Significance: nothing of value can be achieved alone, bring people aboard
2. Law of the Big Picture: goal > role. Everybody serves an important role
3. Law of the Niche: everybody has a place, we must find their perfect contribution role
4. Law of Mt. Everest: as challenge increases, need for teamwork increases. Grow your team's abilities and skills, add key members & relieve ineffective ones
5. Law of the Chain: strength of a team is impacted by its weakest link; not everyone will take the journey, not everybody should, and not everybody will.
6. Law of the Catalyst: winning teams have players that make things happen..who are yours?
7. Law of the Compass: one team, one goal--have one
8. Law of the Bad Apple: rotten attitudes ruin teams--attitude is contagious
9. Law of Countability: character=trust. Teammates need to be able to count on others
10. Law of the Price Tag: must pay the price to reach full potential; price always increases if you want to improve--never decreases
11. Law of the Scoreboard: can only adjust and achieve goals if you know the score
12. Law of the Bench: great teams have great depth; always have more 'benchers' than starters. Build & recruit for your bench
13. Law of Identity: shared values increase team unity
14. Law of Communication: interaction fuels connection and action and **trust**
15. Law of the Edge: difference between two equally talented teams is leadership

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16. Law of High Morale: when you're winning, nothing hurts

17. Law of Dividends: investing in the team compounds over time